

AD



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/025,880	12/26/2001	Charles J. Rieger III	2051.0020001	2236

26111 7590 07/28/2005

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX PLLC
1100 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

BATURAY, ALICIA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2155

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/025,880

Applicant(s)

RIEGER, CHARLES J.

Examiner

Alicia Baturay

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-58 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-58 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 9, 10, 15, 17, 19, 21, 24, 25, 28, 36, 40, 52 and 56 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 00000005- 06102003
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1- 58 are pending.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 1, 9, 15, 17, 21, 28, 36, 40, 52, and 56 are objected to because of the following informalities: it is written in an outline format ((a), (b), or (1), (2), etc.), and should be written in sentence form. Appropriate correction is required.
3. Claims 10, 19, 24, and 25 are objected to because they reference claims that are written in an outline format and should be written in sentence form. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
5. Claim 9 recites the limitation "the broadcast region." There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
6. Claim 40 recites the limitation "the user." There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
7. Claim 50 recites the limitation "the plurality of client computers." There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

9. Claims 1-8, 15, 16, 21, 28-40, 42-56, and 58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sotiroff et al. (U.S. 5,852,810).

10. With respect to claim 1, Sotiroff teaches a method of communicating a posting to a target user community, comprising the steps of:

Enabling an originator of the posting to select a broadcast channel, where the broadcast channel has a channel description related to the posting (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 46-50); providing a user interface to enable the originator to input the posting, where the posting is comprised of one or more of an identification tag, an information component, and a broadcast region descriptor (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 43-46); and transmitting the posting to the target user community over the broadcast channel, where the target user community is defined by the broadcast region descriptor (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 62-64; col. 4, lines 36-47).

11. With respect to claim 2, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 1, including the method where the information component is comprised of one or more of text data, image data, audio data, and linking data for accessing a page on the Internet (Sotiroff, col. 4, line 65 – col. 5, line 4).

12. With respect to claim 3, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 1, including the method further comprising the step of enabling the originator of the posting to select one or more behavioral options, the behavioral options including one or more of whether to reveal a name associated with the originator to the target user community, whether to reveal an electronic mail address associated with the originator, and whether to allow a member of the target community to communicate a reply to the originator (Sotiroff, col. 2, lines 48-53).
13. With respect to claim 4, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 1, including the method where the broadcast region descriptor is determined by enabling the originator to define one or more bounded objects on a geographical map view (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 46-52).
14. With respect to claim 5, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 1, including the method where the broadcast region descriptor is determined by enabling the originator to select one or more predefined bounded objects (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 46-52).
15. With respect to claim 6, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 1, including the method further comprising the step of enabling the originator to define a personal icon (Sotiroff, col. 4, line 65 – col. 5, line 4).
16. With respect to claim 7, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 6, including the method where the personal icon is a bitmap image (Sotiroff, col. 4, line 65 – col. 5, line 4).

17. With respect to claim 8, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 6, including the method where the personal icon is transmitted with the posting (Sotiroff, col. 4, line 65 – col. 5, line 4).

18. With respect to claim 15, Sotiroff teaches a method of communicating a ping to a target user community, comprising the steps of:

Enabling an originator of the ping to select a broadcast region into which the ping is to be communicated (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 46-50); enabling the originator to input the ping, where the ping is comprised of one or more key words (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 43-46); and transmitting the ping to the target user community within the broadcast region (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 62-64; col. 4, lines 36-47).

19. With respect to claim 16, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 15, including the method further comprising the step of generating a ping object, where the ping object comprises the ping and the broadcast region (Sotiroff, col. 2, lines 55-61).

20. With respect to claim 21, Sotiroff teaches a method of communicating a posting to a target user community, comprising the steps of:

Receiving a request for postings received by a user antenna; identifying the postings; and transmitting the postings to an originator of the request (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 30-47).

21. With respect to claim 28, Sotiroff teaches a system for communicating information to a target user community using geographical maps, comprising:

A posting information database for storing one or more postings (Sotiroff, col. 2, lines 38-43); and a postings manager in communications with the posting information database, where the postings manager communicates a plurality of the stored postings to a plurality of client computers in the target user community (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 30-52).

22. With respect to claim 29, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 28, including the system further comprising a map manager for generating geographical map views covering the target user community (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 36-47).

23. With respect to claim 30, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 29, including the system further comprising a user interface for accepting a personal icon to be associated with a user account (Sotiroff, col. 4, line 65 – col. 5, line 4).

24. With respect to claim 31, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 30, including the system where the personal icon is a visible element in the postings (Sotiroff, col. 4, line 65 – col. 5, line 4).

25. With respect to claim 32, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 31, including the system further comprising a virtual antenna (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 53-65).

Art Unit: 2155

26. With respect to claim 33, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 32, including the system where the postings manager is configured to display a visible graphical element representing the virtual antenna on the geographical map views (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 53-65).
27. With respect to claim 34, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 33, including the system where a user is permitted to activate the visible graphical element thereby causing a user-defined URL to be opened and displayed on at least one of the plurality of client computers (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 56-65; col. 2, lines 48-53).
28. With respect to claim 35, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 32, including the system further comprised of a plurality of ping topics associated with the virtual antenna, each the ping topic comprising a ping topic keyword pattern and a ping topic response (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 15-26).
29. With respect to claim 36, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 28, including the system where the postings manager is configured to accept a photo attachment, the photo attachment comprising a digital photograph, descriptive information about the digital photograph, and behavioral preferences associated with the digital photograph (Sotiroff, col. 4, line 65 – col. 5, line 4).

Art Unit: 2155

30. With respect to claim 37, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 36, including the system where the photo attachment is associated with an attachment point, the attachment point being a point on the geographical map views (Sotiroff, col. 4, line 65 – col. 5, line 4).
31. With respect to claim 38, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 28, including the system where the postings manager is further configured to enable a plurality of user dialogs, each the user dialogs comprising a plurality of messages between a source user and a recipient user (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 15-26).
32. With respect to claim 39, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 28, including the system further comprising a channel tree comprising a plurality of named system channels interrelated hierarchically (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 30-47). The results from the search return several points of interest located within a city, and then the user is invited to select individual points of interest from that location for further information.
33. With respect to claim 40, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 39, including the system further comprising a plurality of user channels, each of the user channels being owned by the user and comprising a name, a parent system channel, the parent system channel being one of the plurality of named system channels, and a region descriptor (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 38-54).

34. With respect to claim 42, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 28, including the system further comprising an account manager for assigning each user an account type, the account type comprising a system feature table and a usage limits table (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 15-37). The user is limited to searching database, but the lessors can establish and maintain listings in the database.

35. With respect to claim 43, Sotiroff teaches a computer program product having a computer readable medium having control logic stored therein, the control logic enabling a processor to communicate a posting to a target user community, the control logic comprising:

Means for enabling a processor to enable an originator of the posting to select a broadcast channel, where the broadcast channel has a channel description related to the posting (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 46-50); means for enabling a processor to provide a user interface to enable the originator to input the posting, where the posting is comprised of one or more of an identification tag, an information component, and a broadcast region descriptor (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 43-46); and means for enabling a processor to transmit the posting to the target user community over the broadcast channel, where the target user community is defined by the broadcast region descriptor (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 62-64; col. 4, lines 36-47).

36. With respect to claim 44, Sotiroff teaches a computer program product having a computer readable medium having control logic stored therein, the control logic enabling a processor to communicate information to a target user community using geographical map view, the control logic comprising:

Means for enabling a processor to store one or more postings in a posting information database (Sotiroff, col. 2, lines 38-43); means for enabling a processor to provide a user interface to enable an originator of the one or more postings to define a broadcast region on the geographical map view in order to identify the target user community (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 46-52); and means for enabling the processor to communicate a plurality of the one or more postings to the target user community (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 62-64; col. 4, lines 36-47).

37. With respect to claim 45, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 44, including the computer program product where the control logic further comprises means for enabling a processor to generate the geographical map view (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 36-47).

38. With respect to claim 46, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 45, including the computer program product of claim 45, where the control logic further comprises means for enabling the processor to accept a personal icon to be associated with a user account (Sotiroff, col. 4, line 65 – col. 5, line 4).

39. With respect to claim 47, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 46, including the computer program product where the personal icon is a visible element in the postings (Sotiroff, col. 4, line 65 – col. 5, line 4).

40. With respect to claim 48, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 47, including the computer program product where the control logic further comprises means for enabling the processor to create a virtual antenna (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 53-65).
41. With respect to claim 49, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 48, including the computer program product where the control logic further comprises means for enabling the processor to display a visible graphical element representing the virtual antenna on the geographical map view (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 53-65).
42. With respect to claim 50, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 49, including the computer program product where the control logic further comprises means for enabling the processor to enable a user to activate the visible graphical element thereby causing a user-defined URL to be opened and displayed on at least one of the plurality of client computers (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 56-65; col. 2, lines 48-53).
43. With respect to claim 51, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 48, including the computer program product where the control logic further comprises means for enabling the processor to associate a plurality of ping topics with the virtual antenna, each the ping topic comprising a ping topic keyword pattern and a ping topic response (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 15-26).

44. With respect to claim 52, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 44, including the computer program product where the control logic further comprises means for enabling the processor to accept a photo attachment, the photo attachment comprising a digital photograph, descriptive information about the digital photograph, and behavioral preferences associated with the digital photograph (Sotiroff, col. 4, line 65 – col. 5, line 4).
45. With respect to claim 53, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 52, including the computer program product where the control logic further comprises means for enabling the processor to associate the photo attachment with an attachment point, the attachment point being a point on the geographical map view (Sotiroff, col. 4, line 65 – col. 5, line 4).
46. With respect to claim 54, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 44, including the computer program product where the control logic further comprises means for enabling the processor to enable a plurality of user dialogs, each the user dialogs comprising a plurality of messages between a source user and a recipient user (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 15-26).
47. With respect to claim 55, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 44, including the computer program product where the control logic further comprises means for enabling the processor to generate a channel tree comprised a plurality of named system channels interrelated hierarchically (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 30-47). The results from the search return

several points of interest located within a city, and then the user is invited to select individual points of interest from that location for further information.

48. With respect to claim 56, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 55, including the computer program product where the control logic further comprises means for enabling the processor to enable a user to define a plurality of user channels, each of the user channels being owned by the user and comprising a name, a parent system channel, the parent system channel being one of the plurality of named system channels, and a region descriptor (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 38-54).

49. With respect to claim 58, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 44, including the computer program product where the control logic further comprises means for enabling the processor to assign each user an account type, the account type comprising a system feature table and a usage limits table (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 15-37). The user is limited to searching database, but the lessors can establish and maintain listings in the database.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

50. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

51. Claims 9-14, 17-20, 22-27, 41, and 57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sotiroff and further in view of Johnstone et al. (U.S. 5,898,680).

Sotiroff teaches the invention substantially as claimed including a geographic-specific information search system configured to display a graphical map and to allow the user to narrow the geographic search area to the desired region.

52. With respect to claim 9, Sotiroff teaches a method of communicating postings to a target user community, comprising the steps of:

Receiving a posting to be communicated over a designated broadcast channel to a target user community; retrieving a set of geographical boundaries for each region located within the broadcast region (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 46-50); and communicating the posting to the virtual antennas (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 36-47).

Sotiroff does not explicitly teach identifying the location of the users of the system.

However, Johnstone teaches identifying a set of virtual antennas located within the set of geographical boundaries (Johnstone, col. 14, lines 34-40).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Sotiroff in view of Johnstone in order to identifying the location of the users of the system. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate automatically providing the users with location-specific information within the area of their current position.

53. With respect to claim 10, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 9, including the method where the receiving step further comprises receiving one or more behavioral options associated with the posting (Sotiroff, col. 2, lines 48-53).

54. With respect to claim 11, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 10, including the method further comprising the step of generating a posting object, the posting object comprising the posting and the one or more behavioral options (Sotiroff, col. 2, lines 48-61).

55. With respect to claim 12, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 9, including the method where the target user community is defined by a broadcast region descriptor (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 62-64; col. 4, lines 36-47).

56. With respect to claim 13, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 9, including the method further comprising the step of verifying that the received posting contains information needed to communicate the posting (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 61-64).

57. With respect to claim 14, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 9, including the use of virtual antennas (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 53-65).

Sotiroff does not explicitly teach virtual antennas being tuned to a specific channel.

However, Johnstone the method where each virtual antenna is tuned to receive postings on the designated broadcast channel (Johnstone, col. 13, lines 17-22).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Sotiroff in view of Johnstone in order to enable the virtual antennas to be tuned to a specific channel. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate automatically providing the users with location-specific information within the area of their current position.

58. With respect to claim 17, teaches a method of communicating a ping to a target user community, comprising the steps of:

Receiving a ping comprised of one or more key words to be communicated to a broadcast region from a user (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 43-46); retrieving a set of geographical boundaries for each region located within the broadcast region (Sotiroff, col. 5, lines 46-50); and comparing the ping to a keyword expression associated with each virtual antenna in the set of virtual antennas; generating a hit list comprising a response from each virtual antenna in the set of virtual antennas having a keyword expression matching the ping; and communicating the hit list to the user (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 30-47).

Sotiroff does not explicitly teach identifying the location of the users of the system.

However, Johnstone teaches identifying a set of virtual antennas located within the set of geographical boundaries (Johnstone, col. 14, lines 34-40);

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Sotiroff in view of Johnstone in order to identifying the location of the users of the system. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate automatically providing the users with location-specific information within the area of their current position.

59. With respect to claim 18, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 17, including the method where the virtual antennas are visible on a geographical map view (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 53-65).

60. With respect to claim 19, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 17, including the method where step further comprises communicating one or more behavioral options associated with the response from each virtual antenna (Sotiroff, col. 2, lines 48-61).

61. With respect to claim 20, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 19, including the method where the behavioral options include one or more of whether to reveal a name associated with an originator of the response, whether to reveal an electronic mail address associated with the originator, and whether to allow the user to communicate a reply to the originator (Sotiroff, col. 2, lines 48-53).

Art Unit: 2155

62. With respect to claim 22, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 21, including the use of virtual antennas (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 53-65).

Sotiroff does not explicitly teach identifying the location of the users of the system.

However, Johnstone teaches the method where the user antenna is located within a broadcast region (Johnstone, col. 14, lines 34-40).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Sotiroff in view of Johnstone in order to enable identifying the location of the users of the system. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate automatically providing the users with location-specific information within the area of their current position.

63. With respect to claim 23, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 22, including the use of virtual antennas (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 53-65).

Sotiroff does not explicitly teach virtual antennas being tuned to a specific channel.

However, Johnstone the method where each virtual antenna is tuned to receive postings on the designated broadcast channel (Johnstone, col. 13, lines 17-22).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Sotiroff in view of Johnstone in order to enable the virtual antennas to be tuned to a specific channel. One would be motivated to do so in order to facilitate automatically providing the users with location-specific information within the area of their current position.

64. With respect to claim 24, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 23, including the method where the identifying step comprises identifying the postings communicated to the broadcast region over the designated broadcast channel (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 30-47).
65. With respect to claim 25, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 24, including the method where the identifying step further comprises identifying one or more behavioral options associated with the postings (Sotiroff, col. 2, lines 48-61).
66. With respect to claim 26, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 25, including the method further comprising the step of generating a posting object, the posting object comprising the postings and the one or more behavioral options (Sotiroff, col. 2, lines 48-61).
67. With respect to claim 27, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 21, including the use of virtual antennas (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 53-65).

Sotiroff does not explicitly teach the user antenna being mobile.

However, Johnstone teaches the system further comprising a mobile antenna (Johnstone, col. 11, lines 13-15).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Sotiroff in view of Johnstone in order to enable the use of a mobile antenna. One would be motivated to do so in order to enable automatically providing the users with location-specific information within the area of their current position.

68. With respect to claim 41, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 28, including the use of virtual antennas (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 53-65).

Sotiroff does not explicitly teach the user antenna being mobile.

However, Johnstone teaches the system further comprising a mobile antenna (Johnstone, col. 11, lines 13-15).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Sotiroff in view of Johnstone in order to enable the use of a mobile antenna. One would be motivated to do so in order to enable automatically providing the users with location-specific information within the area of their current position.

69. With respect to claim 57, Sotiroff teaches the invention described in claim 44, including the use of virtual antennas (Sotiroff, col. 4, lines 53-65).

Sotiroff does not explicitly teach the user antenna being mobile.

However, Johnstone teaches the system further comprising a mobile antenna (Johnstone, col. 11, lines 13-15).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Sotiroff in view of Johnstone in order to enable the use of a mobile antenna. One would be motivated to do so in order to enable automatically providing the users with location-specific information within the area of their current position.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alicia Baturay whose telephone number is (571) 272-3981. The examiner can normally be reached at 7:30am - 5pm, Monday - Thursday, and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Alicia Baturay
July 18, 2005


SALEH NAJJAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER